



Transylvania County Schools

Presentation to the
Joint Legislative
Task Force on
Education Finance Reform

January 31, 2018

Transylvania County

- A rural, western county
- Over half our county is state or national forest land
- Economy – improving but still suffering
- Population - aging
- Student enrollment – 3,412 ADM in FY18, stable to declining
- Local funding – good support from county



Current System Likes/Dislikes

- **LIKES** –
 - Position funding
 - Base funding
 - Flexibility – instructional supplies, remediation, certain classes of personnel
- **DISLIKES (Areas for Improvement)** –
 - Low wealth/small school allotments
 - Charter school growth funding
 - Lack of flexibility – digital learning
 - Capped allotments (Children with Disabilities, Limited English Proficiency)



Children With Disabilities (PRC 032)

- **SCHOOL AGE** – Based on child count with an overall **12.75% CAP** of the Allotted ADM by the dollar per child count funding factor.
- **PRESCHOOL** - Base amount equal to the average salary and benefits of a classroom teacher, plus additional funding based on preschool headcount.
- Additional funding for group and foster homes, and similar facilities.



Children With Disabilities (PRC 032)

- The funding cap limits the resources available to serve special needs students.
 - **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION** – Consider adopting recommendations of the Program Evaluation Division to remove or modify the funding cap.
- The funding formula does not differentiate between types of disabilities and required services.
 - **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION** – Consider adopting recommendations of the Program Evaluation Division to differentiate funding based on student disability.



Children With Disabilities (PRC 032)

Recommendation 3 of Report Number 2016-11

- Children with Disabilities. Direct DPI to establish a framework that differentiates funding based on service setting and consider eliminating or restructuring the funding cap.



Limited English Proficiency (PRC 054)

- Each eligible LEA/charter school receives the minimum of 1 teacher assistant position.
- 50% of remaining funds are distributed based on the concentration of LEP students within the LEA.
- 50% of remaining funds are distributed based on the weighted 3-year average headcount.
- **MUST SERVE AT LEAST 20 STUDENTS**
- **FUNDING CAPPED AT 10.6%**



Limited English Proficiency (PRC 054)

- The funding threshold and cap limits the resources available to serve LEP students.
 - **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION** – Consider adopting recommendations of the Program Evaluation Division to remove or modify the funding threshold and cap.
- The funding formula does not fully factor in the number of languages primarily spoken.
 - **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION** – Consider simplifying the formula by replacing the concentration factor with a new factor based on the number of languages primarily spoken by a district's English language learners.



Limited English Proficiency (PRC 054)

Recommendation 3 of Report Number 2016-11

- Limited English Proficiency (LEP). Eliminate the minimum funding threshold and cap, and provide a graduated per-headcount amount for LEP students that observes economies of scale.



IN PART



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